



RESOLUTION _____, 2009

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ESTABLISHING THE NORTH PACIFIC COAST MARINE RESOURCES
COMMITTEE FOR WESTERN CLALLAM AND JEFFERSON COUNTIES



THE CLALLAM COUNTY AND JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS find as follows:

1. The Clallam and Jefferson Boards of County Commissioners recognize that the marine waters of the north Pacific coast represent an unparalleled resource of important environmental and economic value to the people of the region, and the tribal state and federal governments for now and future generations.
2. The Boards wish to actively promote local conservation, restoration, and improved understanding of the Counties' marine resources by supporting research and education about these waters.
3. The Washington State Legislature adopted Chapter 36.125 of the Revised Code of Washington to allow counties to establish Marine Resources Committees to provide an ecosystem focus on the responsible use of marine resources within Washington State's Pacific Coastline and to help mobilize science to focus on key priorities.
4. The Exploratory Marine Resources Committee, at the request of the Boards, studied the formation of a Marine Resources Committee in western Clallam and Jefferson Counties, including outlining a vision and developing work plans for projects, and has issued a positive recommendation for its formation.
5. The Exploratory Marine Resources Committee determined that it would serve the interests of both counties to work together to form a new Marine Resources Committee to represent the needs and interests of residents living in north Pacific coastal communities.
6. The Boards' desire to protect the local marine environment and contribute to the overall protection of the marine environment of Washington State's Pacific Coastline by forming a single Western Clallam and Jefferson Counties Marine Resources Committee pursuant to Chapter 36.125 RCW.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Clallam and Jefferson County Commissioners in consideration of the above findings of fact:

1. Hereby establishes a joint Western Clallam and Jefferson Counties Marine Resources Committee whose mission is to: address local marine issues; recommend remedial actions to local, state, tribal, and federal authorities; build local awareness of the issues and support for remedies consistent with the interim "Benchmarks of Performance" as adopted by the Coastal MRC Work Group on January 7, 2009 including specific tasks identified in "Exhibit A."
2. Both counties reserve the right to divest of the organization and form independent Marine Resources Committees to represent their own interests on the western Olympic Peninsula.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this _____ day of September 2009

BOARD OF CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

BOARD OF JEFFERSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Howard V. Doherty, Jr., Chair

David W. Sullivan, Chair

Stephen P. Tharinger

Phil Johnson

Michael C. Chapman

John Austin

ATTEST:

ATTEST:

Trish Holden, CMC, Clerk of the Board

Erin Lundgren, Deputy Clerk of the Board

EXHIBIT A

Purpose: To understand, steward, and restore the marine and estuarine ecological processes of the north Pacific coast of Washington in support of ecosystem health, sustainable marine resource-based livelihoods, cultural integrity, and coastal communities.

Powers and Duties:

1. Advise the Boards of County Commissioners about research, education, and regulatory measures necessary to protect and restore the marine resources of the Counties.
2. Promote specific projects to achieve the protection, restoration, and enhancement of the marine resources of the Counties.
3. Advise the Boards of County Commissioners about efforts that should be developed or encouraged to promote conservation, protection, and restoration of marine habitats and resources.
4. Help assess marine resources problems and the need for preventative or corrective measures in concert with governmental, nongovernmental, tribal, recreational, and commercial interests.
5. Help identify implications, needs, and strategies associated with sustaining marine species in and around the Counties, in concert with the above-mentioned entities.
6. Coordinate activities with the State Ocean Caucus and the Washington Departments of Fish and Wildlife and Ecology to promote the recommendations of the *Washington Ocean Action Plan*.
7. Reach out to the public and other key constituents on the link between healthy marine habitat and healthy resources.
8. Report annually to the Boards of County Commissioners on its activities and recommendations.

Membership: There shall be up to 13 voting members selected by the Board of County Commissioners to ensure that the membership of the committee is balanced and representative. The voting members shall include seats for up to three local residents from Clallam County and up to three local residents from Jefferson County and one seat for each the following governments:

- Clallam County
- Jefferson County
- The City of Forks
- The Makah Tribe
- The Quileute Tribe
- The Hoh Tribe
- The Quinault Nation

The voting members shall, in total, include representation for each of the following categories:

- Conservation/Environmental Groups
- Recreational Groups
- Economic Groups
- Scientific Community

Non-voting seats shall include the following state and federal government agencies:

- Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary
- Olympic National Park
- Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
- U.S. Coast Guard

Members shall serve staggered two-year terms and select a chair and develop bylaws by majority vote.